

SUBJECTS.

the Paliport farm be collected in as many instalments as there were kist months in the year, and also that non-agricultural income beyond a certain limit be taxed.

He concluded by inviting the attention of the Government to the hardship caused to the people by the levy of tolls, and on the desirability of connecting the proposed Quilon-Trivandrum Railway with Alwaye, provided it did not impair the financial stability of the State.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

2. With a view to facilitate transactions, the value of the current coins of the State should be adjusted in such a way as to make their exchange into British coins easy.

Mr. M. M. Verghese (Member, Kottayam Trading Classes) said that the coins which passed for legal tender in a State must be such as could be exchanged with ease, and the Travancore coins offered difficulties in the matter of mutual exchange. The Travancore Rupee was a coin which existed only in imagination and on paper. The difficulty in converting Travancore coins into British currency was causing considerable vexation and inconvenience to the people, especially to those who had commercial dealings with the outside world. To remedy this difficulty, he suggested (1) that the Sircar Rupee might be done away with, (2) only the British Rupee, Travancore Chackram and Cash might pass for legal tender hereafter, and (3) the British Rupee be valued at Chs 32 and 1 Chakaram at 12 cash. The temporary inconvenience which might be experienced by the Audit Department in adopting the new system of currency, when compared to the lasting benefits derived, was nothing.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

- Removal of the difficulties often experienced by the public with regard to the Travancore silver coins.

Mr. Ramaswami Meenakshi Chettiar (Member, Nagercoil Trading Classes) said that the silver coins in the State were dissimilar as regards impression and weight and that considerable difficulties were being experienced by the people in the matter of exchanging them. They were refused in the markets; and in the treasuries, whence they had been originally disbursed, they were returned defaced. The supply of copper coins was insufficient to meet the demand. The Member proposed the following remedial measures:—

(1) That prompt action should be taken by the Police and other officers to check the spread of counterfeit coins.

(2) That only experienced men should be appointed in the Mint and new machines be obtained to manufacture coins without any difference in value or weight.

(3) That copper coins should be supplied on a large scale.